

OFFICIAL PUBLICATION OF THE CANADIAN CAMPING ASSOCIATION

# CANADIAN CAMPING

***December 1966,*** TORONTO, CANADA





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# CANADIAN CAMPING

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# The Directors' Retreat

by Bruno Morawetz, Ph.D.,  
Director, Camp Ponacka

The noise in the glittering banquet room subsided. The waitresses in their rustling black silk dresses had removed the tableware, chairs were swung toward the head table and a hush swept over the room. It was a colourful sight . . . ladies in cocktail gowns, guiders in their blue uniforms, Salvation Army men in their characteristic tunics, priests, scouts and men in business suits. They had come together in March, 1966, in the interests of the camping movement. The Ontario Camping Association Conference was drawing to a close as Barry Lowes rose to his feet to address this large gathering.

His talk, "Challenge in Camping" electrified his audience. His forceful delivery underlined the poignancy of the challenges he flung into the laps of the camping community. Is camping becoming obsolete? Will year-round education wipe out the nine-week summer vacation? Will travel to Europe be considered more educational than a stay at camp? Is organized camping really as educational as it claims to be? Can it do its job with the scanty knowledge we possess of children in their stages of development? Do we really teach children to live together? Do we really treat them as individuals?

Coming from a Camp Director, who is also chairman of the Toronto Board of Education, these challenges did not fall on deaf ears.

The Education Committee of the Ontario Camping Association set to work and organized a Retreat for

Directors to consider Barry Lowes' challenges in depth. On September 30th, about two dozen Directors began arriving at the Aurora Conference Centre. For the next two days they lived, ate, talked, walked together in camp clothes, camp style. With their camps closed, their minds were at ease, helped by the complete absence of any outsiders. The large areas of glass in Larkin Hall allowed their eyes to feast on the colourful, gently-rolling farmlands of King Township. They had come, because to them the challenges were real and deserved their attention.

The questions resolved themselves into two major concerns:

(1) *How can organized camping be improved and thus justify its claim of being a truly educational venture?* (2) *How can its value as an educational instrument be demonstrated both to the educational world and the wider public.*

Since the number was too large for intimate discussion, two groups were formed and by sheer accident, each concentrated on one of these major concerns.

The first concern revolved around such questions as the role of the counsellor, his selection and training, his skills versus his personality; the scope which should be given to campers, e.g., adventure versus safety; the necessity for bells, punctuality and neatness; the role of the Director—his most important duties—should Directors have certain qualifications and possibly become certified?

The discussion on these various topics gave rise to a number of interesting and stimulating points and each Director learned a great deal about the methods that are followed by other camps. It became evident that there was a great variety in methods of staff training; some camps train their counsellors through winter meetings, letters, staff sessions at Easter staff methods, etc.

The question of whether we expect more from our staff than they are capable of, was discussed at great length. It was suggested by one Camp Director that there should be a three-day post-camp training session which would be devoted to a full evaluation of the summer, mixed with periods of fun and recreation.

There was a great deal of discussion on the amount of freedom campers should be given, whether to allow them to climb trees, make sling-shots and crossbows.

The problem of "cabin sitters" was also discussed. Most camps seem to have some degree of free-choice programming, although there are tremendous variations.

Camp Directors were given the task of answering the question: What do you consider your personal role as a Camp Director? A great deal of mutual enriching was gained by these frank, personal statements.

The qualifications of a Director came in for a good deal of discussion and this is one topic which will be taken up at a later time in all earnestness. It was felt that the camping movement should take a hard look at the possible certification of Directors rather than have someone else dictate terms to it.

The other group concentrated more on how the values of camping could be communicated to the general public and how the image of the Ontario Camping Association could be improved. Under this heading the effectiveness of the Ontario Camping Association itself came under close scrutiny: how more Directors could become involved in the Association; how the Association could be strengthened and how new Directors could be persuaded to join. It was suggested that the Ontario Camping Association be an umbrella under which kindred groups could meet, e.g., day camps, church camps, independent camps, guides, Scouts, etc.

A number of specific recommendations have been sent to the Board of the Ontario Camping Association, designed to inform the public of the existence and the work of the camping movement. Some efforts should be made to broaden the opportunities for staff training during the winter months and a number of research projects have been recommended, e.g., stages in child development, techniques for interviewing and hiring.

It became evident that the Ontario Camping Association should foster closer liaison with the community programmes branch and various government agencies.

It would take too much space to cover the many valuable points, recommendations and suggestions that were made during the brainstorming weekend at Aurora, but one thing became crystal clear—that a "Camp Directors' Retreat" can be not only most enjoyable but a powerful instrument in inspiring Camp Directors and consequently, of raising the quality of camping in general.

—: :—

### ***Finding Staff***

It may come as a surprise to Canadian Camp Directors that many American students are most anxious to spend a summer in Canada. Most American universities have extremely competent summer placement bureaux. Camp jobs are listed under such categories as swimming, archery, photography, driver, etc. etc. Many of these students have had university extension courses and subjects relating to camping and some are eager to do field work.

The busiest time for summer placement bureaux is January and February.

This seems like a sound method to increase the pool of available counsellors.

—Bruno Morawetz  
Camp Ponacka

# A TWO WAY AFFAIR

*by May Brown, President,  
Canadian Camping Association*

Is it enough for us as camping people to assume that living in the out-of-doors is a good thing both for the camper and the out-of-doors? Is it enough for us to take children into the camp setting and let them use the natural resources for their enjoyment without any understanding of the implications of this use. Have we ever thought that the use of the natural setting is or should be a two way affair! The camper should derive maximum benefit from this environment and the natural things around him should be treated with care and respect. The Canadian Camping Association is aware that Conservation has many aspects. However, it is suggested that a programme of this kind should be an integral part of every camp.

## A Foremost Problem

Conservation is one of the foremost problems of our day. With the advance of technology and its increasing consumption of power, man is now able to change nature in many ways. Mountains are moved, artificial lakes created, vast forests are cut down to make way for freeways, power lines and gas mains. Increasing population means more people use the natural resources at our disposal. Increased leisure time sends countless multitudes into the wilderness and waterfront areas of our country to fish, hunt, hike and boat. All of this adds up to just one thing—we can no longer disregard the need for an educational programme which will prepare people with the knowledge, skills and attitudes to make quality use of the out-of-doors.

## A Real Responsibility

I feel sure that the members of the Canadian Camping Association across our country have a real responsibility to bring emphatically to the attention of all campers the importance of using widely and well the trees, the animals, the water and the land around them.

What kind of attitudes do we have to-day about the use of the out-of-doors? From the evidence around us these attitudes are reflected in the following general behaviour:

- an almost wanton destruction of living things.
- a tendency to over use the areas so that all life is removed and erosion takes place.
- removing trees, plants and soil to make room for our modern conveniences—parking lots and hard top areas.
- leaving our waste and refuse behind as we move across natural areas.

Where and how did these attitudes develop? In a country as vast as our own and one which has been so recently inhabited, we have a heritage in which it was necessary to kill animals and fish for food; fell trees for houses and fuel; use plants for many household purposes. Most people lived a rural life where they were engaged in pursuits that were not too far removed from nature. No widespread water pollution took place; roads were winding country lanes for slow moving vehicles, and the lives of people were intimately bound up with the natural



habitat. Then came urbanization, industrial development, vast highway systems and great power developments in isolated areas. The minerals of the earth's surface were needed for the machine age and nuclear advances.

The lives of people changed from that of an agrarian life to one where they lived in an almost entirely artificial environment. Here, use and waste was essential to the economy of the society. Everything they did was based on use it, get rid of it and get something new. This attitude would, of course, carry over when people moved from this unnatural environment to the camp or wilderness. Unless we educate people so that attitudes will change we will have the continued littering and destructive use of the parks and wilderness areas of our country. We will continue to pollute the waters and destroy the balance of nature found in any natural environment.

### With Respect

Do we in our camps pay any attention to the idea that nature inhabited by man needs to be treated with respect and with appreciation of its continued usefulness? It may be we give some lip service to conservation practices, but do we really have specific ways of bringing to the attention of staff and campers alike just what living in and close to natural things means. Do we point out what happens when an axe is swung into the bark of a tree for no particular purpose? A flower blooming along a trail may be picked, carried and thrown away rather than allowed to stay and be admired for its beauty. The ground squirrel will be chased and stoned rather than coaxed to come to eat from our hands. Garbage and cans are thrown carelessly into the stream or lake with no concern or awareness of pollution.

How easy it is to live at camp and be in close proximity to bird, animal and insect life without ever seeing the wonders and beauty these things bring. How much do we plan a programme whereby boys and girls will become skilled in the art of living in the out-of-doors with comfort and a minimum of destruction to the natural life around us. Do we develop a sense of appreciation that every bit of environment is a co-operative combination of living forces that depend on each other for survival. When we remove the trees and plants we change the bird, insect and animal habitat. When we clear the land we leave it open to the erosive forces of the weather. In other words there is much more to camping than moving out into a wilderness area and living as we live in a man made environment.

### The Challenge

The challenge of camping seems to be one that is much more than a holiday in a natural setting. Unless we learn how to use the habitat of nature so that it will prosper and thrive with our use, unless we know the true meaning of conservation, unless we educate our young people to love and appreciate the out-of-doors, we will without doubt leave it scarred, desecrated and spoiled for those who will come in the future.

At present we are having quantity use of our natural spaces with an ever increasing number of people moving into parks, camp sites and wilderness areas. What we must have is quality use of these resources so that everyone will be able to benefit from the experience of living close to nature and natural things. If every youngster attending one of our camps, developed a keen awareness of this through good camp programmes, the Canadian Camping Association could make a significant contribution to the future of Canada.

## ***For Your Bookshelf . . .***

**BY THE SOUND OF HER WHISTLE**, by John Craig, Drawings by Fred Craig, Pub. Peter Martin Associates, Toronto, 1966. Price \$7.50

This is a story about the steamboats whose whistle sounds were as familiar in the Kawartha Lakes as the call of a loon. It is a story about the settlers who came, first by foot or carriage, and then by steamboat to homestead in the Valley of the Trent in Central Ontario. The narrative flows in a friendly way, with excerpts from early diaries, letters and the books of Susannah Moodie and Catherine Parr Trail. The story focuses especially on the Young family—because with Francis Young the whistles began in the first quarter of the nineteenth century, and the last whistle was sounded by his descendants, Pat and Fred Young a century and a quarter later.

This book is about an age that is passed forever — written with charm and wit, and enhanced by the line drawings of an artist whose talent is matched by his affection for his subject.

Here is a Christmas gift that is certain to please anybody on your list who enjoys a well told tale!

**Gwen Morawetz**  
Camp Ponacka

**“MOUNTAINEERING”**  
—Alan Blackshaw, published by Harmondsworth 1965. Handled by Longman's of Canada. Paper back Price \$3.95.

Alan Blackshaw's book is, as its subtitle 'From Hill Walking to Alpine Climbing' suggests, a comprehensive work. The author is clearly an expert himself, but more important for his Canadian readers he is an enthusiast. Inevitably much of the book is of little

value in Canada, for few climbers, hikers or campers are likely to be acquainted with the climbing areas in Britain or even in the Alps. However, there is much of value here, for the basic principles of 'mountaineering' in the broad sense are universal. Thus the sections on climbing techniques in different conditions of rock, snow and ice, on equipment and food, and on safety are very useful. The appendices, too, on map and compass and knots are helpful. Thus I would say that this book can be of interest to two groups in Canada. Firstly, it is an excellent handbook with good illustrations and cross-references on technique for the genuine climber. Secondly, it has much sound advice for the hiker and camper, and especially for those involved in hiking with groups of young people.

**E. I. Zinkan**

of Rocky Mountain Boys' Camp,  
Invermere P.O., B.C.

\* \* \* \*

We're looking at a folder from the National Audubon Society, 1130 Fifth Avenue, New York, N.Y. 10028 which advises us they have **Nature Bulletins** on 70 subjects that should be of considerable interest for teachers and youth leaders. These comprehensive Bulletins are written by authorities in the various fields of natural history. A special offer permits you to have the complete set of 70 for \$10.00. A random selection of titles is "How to Lead a Field Trip"; "How to Build A Nature Trail"; "The Ways of Wildlife in Winter". Other titles and outline of contents are equally intriguing.

One other booklet we'd like to mention, though perhaps you are already familiar with it, is "**Backpacking in the National Forest Wilderness**", published

*page 21 please*



# WE'RE HAVING A BIRTHDAY -

## SO WHAT?

*by John Latimer, Chairman,  
National Centenary Journey Committee*

So we're celebrating a birthday! As mere humans get older we seem to annually endeavour to minimize the fact that we are aging—but a country! Now that's a different story. We Canadians, a peculiar breed, constantly run about the country weeping and wailing about our 'inferior' position. We apologize for our complex, we bemoan our insignificance — in fact we become rather boastful of the fact that we Canadians have such an inferiority complex. However, in a few months we will be proudly proclaiming to the world that we are aging—that we are one hundred years old. Perhaps then our pride will be directed more positively. Hopefully, we will regard ourselves as citizens of a country uniquely composed of two different cultures—a country filled with thousands of acres of uncultivated land—rivers to be encountered, and lakes to be crossed. And yet we have a country already joined by fresh, dynamic cities; industries, imaginative towns; prosperous, beautiful villages.

### **The Campaign**

The campaign has begun in earnest. From coast to coast, one hears the call to join the celebration. They ask us; "What is your group doing to celebrate?" "What plans has your community made?" "What arrangements have been made by your Company and firm?" "What are you, as an individual Canadian, planning to do to celebrate our one hundredth birthday?"

But more related to the readers of "Canadian Camping" — "What is your Camp doing to celebrate our Centennial?" And even more specifically—"Are you going to participate in the

Canadian Camping Association's CENTENARY JOURNEY?"

As Chairman, I have just completed a trip to our west coast, meeting along the way with the Chairmen and committees of the Provincial Camping Associations responsible for co-ordinating this herculean project. There is much to be done, and yet I am convinced, after meeting many enthusiastic, hard-working committee members that our project has so much potential—so much excitement—so much to offer to Canadians now and in the future. We offer no prize money! We aren't interested in speed! We discourage racing! We don't want just he-men! We won't limit our participants in number! In fact, we are endeavouring to involve as many Canadian children as possible. If they can't paddle a canoe, possibly they can hike past an unnavigable river. If they can't walk perhaps they can ride. If they can't ride, perhaps they can sail a boat. And if they can do none of these things, the bi-product of the CENTENARY JOURNEY will be a 'National' Campfire, held from coast to coast in every camp in Canada—in every Scout Troop, in every campsite, on every water-way. The Campfire will have a standard and nationally-adopted opening and closing, and will probably be held on the night of August 9, 1967. And if Campers can't be involved at that particular time, further arrangements can be made to hold a similar campfire and programme in two-week, and ten-day periods throughout the summer months. In other words, every youngster who attends a Camp in Canada in 1967 can be involved in the C.C.A.'s own Centennial Project.

Committees have been working on this project for the past three years,

and more actively since March 1966 at which time all of the Provincial Chairmen met in Toronto for a CENTENARY JOURNEY Conference. Many guide lines were established, routes tentatively finalized, and national co-ordination procedures determined. And now in the fall of this year it is obvious that many more people are really getting down to brass tacks. Further details are being discussed, committees expanded, and routes selected and designated. From all reports the future is indeed an exciting one!

### Provincial Plans

The Nova Scotia Camping Association's project appears to be one of the most dynamic that we have seen to date. Ron Iles, assisted by Freda Wales, has spear-headed a programme which covers every canoe route in the Province. The CENTENARY JOURNEY portion, which is only one small part of the provincial system, has already been covered, and a twenty-five page report submitted. The River Herbert portion is also complete, and a grant from the Provincial government has been received.

Lack of canoes and experienced canoeists makes participation somewhat doubtful by those interested in Newfoundland, Prince Edward Island, and New Brunswick, but Doug Eaton, Jim Stahr, and John Murrant have indicated that reports covering portions of their Provinces which can be linked historically with the over-all project will be submitted for the National publication in September of 1967.

Naturally campers from Quebec are not too keen on travelling on the open sewage ditch more commonly called the Ottawa River from Lachine to Ottawa. Nevertheless, this will be done, but to make their involvement more interesting Peter Van Wagner reports that some of the French-speaking and English-speaking campers will be travelling and reporting on more northerly routes which, although not directly re-

lated to the route of the Voyageurs, have definite historical significance to Quebec.

Ontario's chairman John Scott advises that every portion of Ontario has been covered (in most cases by more than one Camp), with the exception of Lake Superior. However, John has received a commitment from one Camp Director assuring him that this treacherous body of water will be crossed in 1967 by some of his ex-staff members. During October of this year all organizations in Ontario will be contacted so that those interested in becoming official 'Voyageurs' will be assigned the route of their choice. I believe that the Ontario Committee has agreed that, if requested, they will officially recognize groups from both a boys' and girls' camp to take the same trip (separate reports will be submitted and differences, if any, will be noted in the master log).

\* \* \* \*

Lake Winnipeg poses the only real problem to Doug McEwen's Manitoba Committee. He feels that the balance of the routes in the province will be traversed in 1967, and if an experienced group cannot be found to paddle this lake, possible alternate routes will be designated. The many groups represented in the Manitoba Camping Association have given Doug enthusiastic support, and, although there are few camps with a canoeing programme, some of the overlapping camps in Ontario will be offered opportunities to assist, under the aegis of the M.C.A.

Jack MacKenzie, assisted by Gord Mundle of Regina have the Saskatchewan portion of the CENTENARY JOURNEY well in hand. Jack, who himself has done a great deal of canoeing in that Province, has already covered most of the important routes, and is now consulting with groups to cover the rivers and lakes bordering on Manitoba and Alberta. In 1966 Jack led a group of 5 Indian and 5 white boys in paddling part of the JOUR-



NEY route in the area of the Churchill River.

**Alberta** still stumps the National Committee. Unfortunately, the previous Chairman Don Smith found it necessary to reign, and as yet we have been unable to contact his replacement. I am confident though that by the time this report goes to press we will once again have established contact so that final plans can be made.

**British Columbia** has a most active committee led by Faye Ecclestone and Malcolm Hicklenton. May Brown, Lorne Bowering, (Vancouver Y.M.C.A.) and Ken Hansom (Vancouver Boys' Clubs) have each assumed responsibility for a portion of the Province. In turn, each portion has been broken down into sections which total over 20. Immediately west of the Alberta border the going is relatively simple, but as the Fraser River and three mountain ranges loom closer, the mode of transportation becomes somewhat more difficult, challenging and indeed more dangerous. However, the committee feels that with the guidance and assistance of groups such as the B.C. Kayak and Canoe Association all of the routes will be covered by August 1967. In fact many reports have already been received on not only CENTENARY JOURNEY routes but practically all of the navigable routes in B.C. In 1965 five students from McGill University travelled the Fraser River and, in fact, topped Simon Fraser's record since they made no portages. Their reports have been invaluable to the committee, and their slides and recorded documentation provide a most exciting picture of the experiences which these men faced. It is my hope that this presentation can be made at the Annual Meeting of the C.C.A., being held in Toronto next March—surely a most worthwhile part of the programme. To the organizations and Camps, B.C. offers the most diversified means of transportation. Some smaller groups will be involved in hiking, some

might be using raft and a few will be using horses, and, of course many will be paddling. Others will be meeting near Vancouver possibly sailing to rendezvous with Vancouver Island campers—perhaps near the steps of the Parliament Buildings in Victoria.

### Random Jottings.

This article is being written from a hotel in Vancouver. I have just met with the B.C. CENTENARY JOURNEY Committee. Previous to this I had talks with Doug McEwen and Jack MacKenzie. While in Vancouver I received reports from other Provincial Chairmen, and as a result of these contacts and discussions, there are several random jottings which I would like to note, and which the National Committee will be considering;

\* \* \* \*

A flag or Pennant to be considered for every canoe, hiking trip or sailboat.

Camps and Organizations are responsible for arranging their own Rendezvous Points within each Province, and hopefully at each border.

Each participating Camp is asked to contact the news media in their own area, arranging for coverage of their own particular trip.

The National Campfire will be held on one pre-designated day, but this does not mean that Camps will be unable to hold similar campfires on more suitable dates in their earlier or later camping periods. Stress should be made of the significance of the CENTENARY JOURNEY and the over-all National theme.

Items or symbols might be exchanged between all campers at their Rendezvous Points. This would tie in with the original Voyageur and Trader meetings. Such items might be signed by participating campers, exchanged and displayed in Camp dining halls for posterity.

Camps might plan to meet at Rendezvous Points for more than just a Campfire. Pageants, regattas and joint sing-songs could be pre-arranged.

Camps should take the initiative in endeavouring to become involved with various Community Centennial celebrations as part of their CENTENARY JOURNEY Canoe trip.

Campers involved do not necessarily have to be Canadian . . . just in attendance at Canadian Camp.

Provincial committees will be responsible for editing all logs and reports from each participating group. These will be collated into a Provincial Log. In turn, the Provincial logs will be re-edited and collated by the National Committee to complete the final publication.

Each Provincial Camping Association should fully determine the safety requirements of every Camper and staff member involved. This is essential as the press will be quick to pick up any stories involving accidents to unqualified campers and the Provincial Camp-

ing Association may then be held morally responsible.

So we celebrate our Country's birthday. Whether it be on the Shubenacadia Canal System, the French River, Lake of the Woods, Methye Portage, the mighty Fraser, or at our own campsites, thousands of campers from across Canada will have an opportunity to be joined together in a bond of adventure. They will be united by a history which can be as exciting as a modern-day thriller. They will be challenged to prove that Canada need not take a back seat.

But they will need to be inspired and guided by every leader of children from coast to coast. This is surely the role which must be played by every Camp Director. If you can help—let us know. If you know of anyone who can help—let us know. Contact your Provincial Chairman, but — “Do It Now”.

—●



## **A Camp Director's Diary**

Well, here's a gem from Manitoba—  
“On a postcard mailed  
home:

Dear Mon:

One boy in our cabin has tetnus.  
I scratched my arm on a rusty nail.  
Don't worry.

Love, your son

You can imagine the letter of explanation that that required.”

Only one item for this column and we did hope that after a summer of camping, Directors would have been jamming our mail box with anecdotes! Do turn back your memories and send us something for the February issue; it couldn't be such a dull summer as your silence would indicate.



# AMONG OURSELVES

*Because your Editorial Committee believes that we all want to know each other better, it is proposed that each issue of "Canadian Camping" should include a profile of the Provincial Presidents under the column "Among Ourselves". To initiate this feature, we are presenting the National President, Mrs. Lorne E. Brown.*

*by Faye Ecclestone, 2nd Vice-President,  
Canadian Camping Association*

President of the Canadian Camping Association for the past two years, is a sincere, conscientious camping enthusiast—May Brown. Although the C.C.A. is just one of the numerous organizations which she has so ably and generously assisted over the years, all of us are very much aware of the outstanding contribution she is making to our Association.

May grew up and received her early education in British Columbia. Then, after a brief period of teaching, she went east to Montreal where she joined the staff of the Y.W.C.A. in that city. Her responsibilities included directing Camp Oolawahn and she also took the opportunity of completing her B.Sc. in Physical Education at McGill University.

After her graduation, May returned home to teach health and physical education at the University of British Columbia and also did an excellent job of coaching the women's field hockey teams.

During this period she married Dr. Lorne E. Brown, a fellow physical educationalist, and camp enthusiast. Even while raising two children—Gregory now 16 and Barbara, 11—May turned her attention to interests and accom-



*Mrs. Lorne E. Brown*

plishments outside her home. The list is an imposing one and clearly indicates the intellectual calibre and humanitarian concerns of our President as well as her deep and abiding interest in the health of the nation.

In 1961, May received her degree of Master of Physical Education from the University of British Columbia. As a volunteer, she served the Vancouver Y.W.C.A. on the board and committees. Currently she is chairman of a Work Group in Calgary sponsored by the National Y.W.C.A.; May is an executive member and judge in the Amateur Synchronized Swimming Association of Canada and after serving the usual two year term on the National Advisory Council on Fitness and Amateur Sport was asked to extend her excellent service during 1966.

Five years ago May and her husband opened their own camp for boys and have continued to develop Camp Deka, in the Cariboo District of British Columbia. From the response of their satisfied campers, we know what an exceptional contribution this fine couple are making to resident camping in this province.

May's special hobby is collecting early British Columbia bits and pieces, hoping that in time this will be the basis of a small camp museum.

# The Editor's MailBox

*This is a new column in which we shall share with you excerpts from interesting letters and snippets of news which come to our desk from various people and places in Canada or in far away countries. We hope you will find it informative; don't forget YOU can help us to make it so.*

—the Editor

Our National President tells us:—that **Jack Way** is the new Treasurer of the Canadian Camping Association. He is with the Vancouver Board of Parks and Public Recreation and directs Camp Capilano. Jack was on the C.C.A. Executive when it was located in Alberta.

—that **Larry Goble** is the 1st Vice President of the C.C.A., finishing out Gordon McNab's term of office. Gordon is spending a year at Western Washington College of Education in Bellingham. Mr. Goble is with the Vancouver Y.M.C.A. and former Director of Camp Howdy.

—that the **Hon. Allan J. MacEachen**, Minister of National Health and Welfare has recently announced an Administrative Grant made through his department to the Canadian Camping Association. This grant of \$1,676 was made through the Fitness and Amateur Sport Programme. It will be used to help defray administrative costs of the Association and assist with travel expenses for one delegate from each Branch of the Association to attend the Annual Meeting next March in Toronto.

From a recent issue of the Centennial Commission Bulletin, we quote:

"Have you a budding Rembrandt, Picasso or Tom Thomson in the family? Even a professional doodler. Starving artist or budding genius, his painting, sculpture, drawing or print may win as

much as \$5,000 in a nation-wide Centennial Visual Arts competition, the largest of its kind ever held in Canada and one which is open to all Canadians.

"Titled Perspective '67, the contest will offer awards to winners in four categories: painting, sculpture, drawings and prints and fine crafts. Awards in each section will be \$5,000 for first, \$2,000 for second and \$1,000 for third prize.

"The contest has a twofold purpose: to encourage the development of young professional Canadian artists and craftsmen and to provide an exhibition to draw the attention of the Canadian public to their work.

The Great Lakes Region of the Canadian Youth Hostels Association will open nine hostels in Ontario as its Centennial project. These will be located roughly every 200 miles on the Trans-Canadian Highway between the Quebec and the Manitoba borders.

The Canadian Youth Hostels Association is a non-profit organization dedicated to helping all, and especially young people to a greater knowledge and appreciation of the countryside. This is done by providing hostels or other simple accommodation to assist them on their travels. CYHA is part of a world-wide federation of youth hostels, operating in 40 countries.

The Ontario Department of Transport asks us to advise our readers regarding amendments to the Highway Traffic Act. Now, motorists approaching school buses from the front must stop when the red signal lights are flashing and must remain stopped until the lights are off. The only exception is when one is approaching the bus on a divided highway into separate roadways. This new amendment, requiring traffic to stop in both directions, gives further protection to youngsters by allowing youngsters to cross the road.

Failure to observe this law carries a stiff penalty in fines to say nothing of losing four demerit points for each offence.

—●



# CHURCH CAMPING . . .

by A. Barbara Steven, B.Sc.

Why Church Camping? Is Church camping better than private camping? Does the site matter? Can we have high standards? Is it purpose or price that counts? Can committees work together? Who pays for your child to go to camp? Could camping help to revitalize the Church? These and many other questions are heard where ever church camping people are together.

## A Few Questions

The questions may be similar but the answers must be worked out by each group. No individual, or group point of view has the answer for church camping across Canada!

If this article can bring a few questions into focus we shall be satisfied.

Which controls us most in actual fact, price or purpose? Do we ever say "It should be done this way but we can't afford it"? Generalization is impossible here. However, historically, the Church is inclined to believe that a service, such as Camp leadership, should either be free or cheap. Who does pay for our Christian education (of which camping is a part)? Is it worth paying for? Does it matter?

Suppose for instance that you have given deep consideration to all aspects of many types of car. You are convinced of the car. Would you expect the mechanic to service your car free because you both believe in the same type of car? Or even that the car itself should be available to you free because you believed in it even if you don't care to become involved enough to buy it? Preposterous?? Yes!!

But has the Church fallen into the trap of believing that things can cost what ever the buyer will pay, but that paying for a service, such as camping, is in fact giving the money to that person. It is harder to evaluate "services rendered" than material things. The two principles—the free giving of one's

self and the workman is worthy of his hire—are not opposed. Being paid for a service does not stop a person giving himself. The Christian message is both free and costly. In the concern to keep it inexpensive enough to be available to all there is a possibility of gathering all from the highways and byways without first preparing the feast!

Is it possible that a high school student who should be earning money for his education, or a lay person work-all year and donating his short holiday to your camp are the ones who are really paying for your child's camping experience? Should the concern of the Church be as great for the education and health of its members as for its camps? And yet these people may have the needed skills, knowledge, and concern for young people, and they may enjoy camping. How can the Church accept with integrity, not exploitation? Is there any reason why people should not be paid what they would receive at any other job? Sometimes we act as though God was both poor and stingy! People should be able to take a leave of absence for camp and still have the refreshment that holidays should give. Camp committees might work together to provide a full summer for well trained students in various camps where their ability could best be used. Some leaders, who have well known ability with young people but no camping skills, may even need to be paid while they go for a course to have them as well qualified leaders another year. At the same time those who have the time and ability and can afford to give their time should also be free to do so. So often precedent and rules have been too binding!

## Who Pays?

The next question of course is, does the individual camper have to carry the cost? Is it the concern of the



Church? Should camping as a whole be subsidized or should individual campers who need help have camperships? There is no single answer to any one of these questions. Each camp must decide. There might be value in getting ideas from private camp directors or owners about these questions. They have had to take all the responsibility and if it doesn't work, they don't eat. They have no sponsoring body to pick up the tab for them.

The most important thing to be decided before these or other questions can be answered is, *Why Church Camping?* Is there a philosophy that is distinctive in Church camping beyond secular camping? Is camping important in the life of the Church? Each camp must clearly define its own purpose or philosophy. These concepts should be the reason for having a camp and the reason why leaders come to camp. Naturally some leaders are more mature and have a deeper understanding of this philosophy than others. But people should not just come to camp because they have time, or "like kids", or have certain camping skills—unless in a few cases they are included in a well-integrated fellowship of leaders because of their own potential. An investment in the future!

How important is the choice of a camp site in this philosophy of camping? Some will say it is all important. Others will say that it does not matter as long as the leadership is good. Possibly the important thing is how the property is used and why! The development of the programme and the property of the camp must be based on the same philosophy of camping. This can be more of a problem in Church camping than in private camping because often different bodies of people have different administrative responsibilities. It is easy for a committee to feel that it's own area is the most important; or an individual can be a "castle builder". Very often these people accomplish mammoth tasks, but

the part has become more important than the whole.

### An Educational Method

*Camping is an accepted Educational method.* This applies to Christian Education as well. Many types of presentation are used, each has value. Certain things are available in a camp setting which are not available "back home" no matter what presentation is used.

There is more time at camp for leader and camper to learn together. There can be discussion of questions which don't even have time to be asked in an everyday setting.

The natural setting helps to illustrate God's purpose in His World. The God of ancient story becomes the God of a beautiful campsite. The sensitive leader can move this experience on to the Lord of Life as the time is right.

Living at close quarters draws both the best and the worst out of all of us. In this "sheltered setting" spiritual truths, taught and discussed, can be lived. Listening, talking, being responsible, give and take, and all aspects of the art of friendship can be learned. Fears can be faced, hurts can be resolved, new friends can be made, different viewpoints can be accepted, personality clashes can be resolved. Our teenagers have a vast amount of technical knowledge. If the technique of getting along with people is not learned as well our civilization will go as others have. It has been said that an atom bomb in the hands of a saint is safer than a gun in the hands of a thug. It is easy to teach "love your neighbour", but it is more difficult to do when he has just burnt the last piece of meat or refuses to do anything that the rest want to do. Leaders who understand God's love and have a secure fellowship among themselves are able to create the atmosphere in which campers can learn the art of being friends and getting along with all types of people. A loner cannot do this. This does not just happen! This, too, is the responsibility of the Church.

Life must have some adventure and challenge. It was easier for an individual in an earlier generation to decide to buy an ox-cart and explore the west than for us to decide to man a space ship and go to the moon! There are not many new worlds to conquer. Our teenagers often find, as they try, that they brush against the confines of established society. To learn the skills which make it possible to be "at home in the woods" meets that need in many ways. The standards of these camping skills in church camps must always be high.

### Creative Recreation

As more and more time is available camping skills will provide a safe, creative and enjoyable recreation. Also in our push button age, which is so quickly and completely stopped by a power failure, there is both delight and security in knowing how to survive without modern inventions. At times

of crises these skills become vital to survival.

The church has an important role in offering camping in its highest form to her young people. Does camping have something to offer to the church? Not just in making plans or giving support, but for its active participation. Many Churches are using family Camping. Adults are having conferences and retreats in camp settings. All that has been said for the younger campers applies equally to adults. We all need time to think; to discuss; to be friends; to deepen our own experience or to find a fresh one—to develop a fellowship which will stand the test and grow as the work of the Church continues. How often Jesus took His disciples away from the crowds for rest and fellowship and teaching.

Church Camping? Yes — for the Church as a whole! —●

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## FROM THE PROVINCES . . . .

A delightful picture appeared last summer in the Yellowknife "News of the North". It showed a group sitting around a campfire at Prelude Lake in the N.W.T. This and similar camps in other parts of the Territories were operated by the Young Campers Association. In a letter sent to Dr. and Mrs. Lorne Brown, J. van Pelt, Director of Recreation for the Northwest Territories said, "Richard Caswell and Marnie McKee are doing a great job of camp leader training and assisting camp committees in the Northwest Territories. We in this office appreciate your help in getting the 1966 Young Campers programme on a more solid footing."

\* \* \* \*

Major Albert Browning, President of the Alberta Camping Association has been transferred to another field of service, the Newsletter of the Alberta

Camping Association informs us. To quote further, "Seldom have two people been as keen on camping as have Al and Lydia. Upon their arrival in Alberta the entire Salvation Army Camping programme at Pine Lake was thrust upon them. They quickly learned about the philosophy of their camp and greatly extended and improved the programme. Al's travels put him in touch with Camping fans from the southern part of the Province right to the far North. Many persons benefitted for his experience and generous assistance. He and Lydia spent countless hours in connection with the Junior and Senior Camp Counsellors' Training Camp sponsored by the Camping Association at Pine Lake."

The Brownings have been transferred to St. John's, Nfld. so undoubtedly camping in that province will receive the benefit of their experience.

Doug McEwen writes that the Manitoba Camping Association "is giving study to the policy proposals of National Parks in regard to how they will affect camps located in them. For us we are aware of the way in which Provincial parks follow these National policies and consequently are particularly interested in seeing our camps become aware of implications. Bob Douglas, our President, is entering into correspondence with the Minister, the Honourable Mr. Laing, at this time concerning implications for camps located in National and Provincial parks."

\* \* \* \*

The Ontario Camping Association is also concerning itself with this policy of the National Parks to exclude private dwellings and commercial ventures from national parks in the future. Since such a policy may in time extend to Provincial Parks a number of members of provincial associations could be affected. The President, Mrs. J. Harry Ebbs is expressing to the Ontario Government Department of Lands and Forests the interest and concern of the Ontario Association.

In "OCA'sional News", the bulletin of the Ontario Camping Association, Editor Margaret Govan reminds us that the dates for the Canadian Camping Conference will be March 2, 3 and 4, 1967 at the Inn-on-the-Park, Toronto. Conference Committee meetings have already been held. The Canadian Annual Meeting will be held on March 1st and there are plans to use leadership from all across Canada. So get a 1967 calendar soon and circle those dates in red.

At the Heritage Camp in August at Doe Lake every Canadian province was represented—a total of 90 campers. The theme was "Our Indian Heritage." At the Provincial International Camp held in July, girls had come from Ontario, Rochester and Buffalo,

N.Y. and Cleveland, Ohio. They learned about the cultures of Japan, Italy and the Netherlands; in fact one of the staff was a Guider from the Netherlands. Two Eskimo girls, Rhoda Akkiterk and Martha Omik came from Igloodik, travelling by dog sled to reach the plane which brought them to Montreal. After that it was car to visit Ottawa and on through Algonquin Park to Doe Lake. Aged 13 and 15 neither of them had ever seen a car or farm animals before. Margaret says "our homes interested them and our household gadgets fascinated them." Both belong to the Girl Guides.

\* \* \* \*

Sponsored by the Nova Scotia Camping Association and the Physical Education and Recreation Office, Department of Education a Camp Leadership Conference was held last May at the Y.M.C.A. Big Cove Camp in Pictou County, N.S. The special lecturer was Miss Edith Klein, Associate Professor, University of Georgia, Athens, U.S.A. Leafing through the Conference Proceedings, we found a very complete account of what was said and done. Miss Klein's sessions are outlined in some detail and the talks given there by a number of well-qualified people are reported in full, we would judge. These are the titles of some of the presentations: "Rainy Day Programme"; "Health and Nutrition in Camp"; "Child Drama"; "Outline of Natural History for Summer Camps", and other aspects of camp life in which Camp Directors are interested. Perhaps the Nova Scotia Camping Association has copies of this bulletin available for those who want "to know more".

\* \* \* \*

*After fifteen years as Director of Camp Mohawk, operated by the Kingston Y.M.C.A. - Y.W.C.A. and the Kiwanis Club, Mrs. Carl Birchard has relinquished this responsibility. Here is her poignant good-by.*



It is after midnight on the last night of Camp — 1966. I am sitting on the verandah of my cabin and writing by the flickering light of a candle that only a few short hours ago, lit up the faces of campers and staff as we all stood together in a circle of friendship and sang . . .

Island lyin' lazy 'neath a clear  
blue sky,  
Silent rocks and pines along the shore;  
Old St. Lawrence river beats a  
steady song  
Sayin' you will love it evermore.

CHORUS: Mohawk, island dear to all,  
Your fires are a token  
Of friendships never  
broken  
Mohawk, your heritage  
of old,  
Is giving us a message  
for tomorrow.

Friendly isle so still beneath the  
pale moonlight  
Faces glowing softly 'round the fire  
Voices floating upward on the  
rising smoke  
Singing of a land of heart's desire.  
—Char and Frigga, 1960

These words have a very real meaning for me, and I hope for all of you. The message of the Island and its heritage must have significance in our lives today if we are to build the "happier world" so badly needed. We are a very privileged few, who have shared the experience of camping together on this beautiful Isle. May you never forget this and may it make you humble as you go your many ways in the months to come. As I come to the end of a decade of camping at Mohawk, I am filled with both sorrow and gratitude. It is always sad to leave something beautiful behind — but I shall never cease to be grateful for having known this Isle and the camping folk who inhabited it. If I have

been able to give, even a few, a sense of direction and a purpose in life, through a rich camping experience, then I count myself both fortunate and privileged.

I feel I would like to reach out over the miles and the years to all who have been here. Many are now raising Mohawk campers of their own and may someday return as parents, telling their small fry of the skits, the swimming, the overnights, and just the fun of living together in the out-of-doors. But none will ever enjoy it more than I have.

May all of you carry on the traditions of Mohawk and may it continue to enrich the lives of campers and staff alike in years to come, so that they may truly say—

"... We do consider each other  
A neighbour, a friend,  
and a brother."

And it is—  
A wonderful, wonderful world  
It is a wonderful world."

God bless you all.  
"CHAR" —●

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## **Your Bookshelf**

*from page 10*

by the U.S. Department of Agriculture; we should think the information it gives might readily be adapted to this country if a similar Canadian publication is unavailable. According to this bulletin "backpacking is best described as advanced camping and should be undertaken only by those who have hiked mountain or forest trails. It requires physical stamina and a genuine liking for the isolation of remote country." The bulletin describes the kind of equipment required, suitable clothing, heat and light, gives lists of food and so on. The price is 15 cents. available from the Superintendent of Documents, U.S. Government Printing Office, Washington, D.C.

—●

# TO WHOM TRIBUTE IS DUE

## GERTRUDE EVELYN MOORE

\* \* \* \*

At the annual meeting, held last February, of the British Columbia Camping Association a very special tribute was paid to one of the pioneers in the camping field in Canada. There was established the Gertrude E. Moore Lecture, an annual event, whose purpose is to bring to the attention of camping people in British Columbia new thinking, ideas and concepts on leadership as it relates to all aspects of camping.

To many people across this country the name of Gertrude Moore is a very familiar one. But perhaps even they may not be fully aware of her many achievements.

Consequently we decided to do some "quoting" from the December 1954 issue of "Canadian Camping" in which Dr. Lorne E. Brown, a Past President of the B.C. Camping Association—and husband of the President of the Canadian Camping Association!—gives so excellent a profile of Miss Moore.

Moorecroft Camp, founded in 1934 and operated until 1956, was really born one summer evening nearly four decades ago when Mary S. Edgar, Director of Camp Glen Bernard in Sundridge, Ontario, asked one of her counsellors to go for an evening stroll after a busy day. As a result of that quiet chat between the First Lady of Canadian Camping and a young enthusiastic counsellor, the first private camp for girls in British Columbia was opened.

"Dinty" Moore—as her friends call her—was born and educated in Toronto

(for which her B.C. associates have forgiven her!). As an outstanding student at the Margaret Eaton School, now absorbed into the Department of Health and Physical Education of the University of Toronto, Miss Moore won the Mathilda Rogers Scholarship for two years in succession and on graduation was awarded the Dorothy Scott Raff Optima Prize for "diligence to work and thoughtfulness for others".

Following graduation, Gertrude was for several years on the staff of the Margaret Eaton School and then taught for ten years at the Central Technical High School in Toronto. She started her camping career as Sports Counsellor at Camp Couchiching for the National YWCA and in 1927 went to the Vancouver Association as the Physical Education Director. She returned to Toronto to be the Director of Recreation for Women at the T. Eaton Co. and to direct their camp for business girls at Shadow Lake. Previous to this Miss Moore had taken several courses in Physical Education at Harvard University and courses in camping sponsored by the American Camping Association.

But British Columbia remained in her thoughts and the increasing need for camps in that province. At last in 1934, Moorecroft opened its first camping season on 75 acres of beautiful wooded land on the east coast of Vancouver Island overlooking the straits of Georgia and the snow-clad mountains of the B.C. mainland. Here, year after year, girls, and later boys, partici-

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# Sermons

## Under the Sun

There are times when many of us are at a loss to find suitable stories which teach a lesson to children without preaching a sermon. Our story for this month has been used by Howard Glaze, who finds that campers listen to it, ask that it be told again, and discuss it, often long after its telling:

Long ago in Germany there lived a kindly old school master. For forty long years he taught in the same room, in the same school, in the same village until at last he made up his mind to go on a holiday. For three weeks the school master enjoyed a wonderful vacation but he was glad to return once again to his little school in the little village where he had spent the greater part of his life.

On his first day after his return he brought to the school a large box filled with many gifts he had collected on his vacation to give to the boys and

girls in his class. The pupils were delighted with their gifts. For Gretchen there was a sea shell which made a noise like the ocean waves if it were placed to the ear. For Carl there was a marvelous little animal on a stick which would climb to the top of the stick and fall down again. The many many other gifts would take me all day to tell you about. Finally all the gifts, but one, were given out. This one was a beautifully carved little angel with golden wings and the loveliest face the children had ever seen. Every child would have loved to have her, but no child thought that he or she deserved such an exquisite treasure.

Then the school master said a very strange thing! "Tomorrow," he said, "I will give the little angel to the boy or girl who brings me the most beautiful thing in the world!"







## Current and Timely

Because of the current interest in the following books we have a large number on hand and have sold many more than we expected. Because of the volume sales we are able to offer discounts as indicated:

**A Wilderness Bill of Rights** — William O. Douglas.

Justice Douglas tells how the government and private interests are squandering our camping lands and what needs to be done to protect them.

Was \$5.95 — Sale Price \$4.95

**Last of the Redwoods** — Sierra Club

This is a big book with beautiful chromecote photographs of the giant California redwood wilderness. Almost as exciting as being there.

Was \$15.00 — Sale Price \$12.50

**The Boy Who Could Sleep When The Wind Blew** — Kenneth and Susan Webb

The editor of **LIGHT FROM A THOUSAND CAMPFIRE** and his wife record a series of real life experiences that dramatically illustrate the character building influences that are prevalent in organized camp experience.

Was \$1.50 — Sale Price \$.95

**SPECIAL NOTICE:** Quantities on some of these books are limited and will be shipped as the orders are received on a first come, first served basis. Sale ends on January 1, 1967. Postage is paid on cash orders only.

### NEW TITLES

The following books have been added since the publication of the 1966 catalog:

**The Golden Guide To Camping** — Robert E. Smallman.

A guide for campers who need to know about living comfortably and expertly in the out of doors. Also, how to plan trips for family groups or young trail blazers. Fully illustrated. 160 pp. \$1.00

**Pocket-Field Bird Guide** (Land Birds East of the Rockies) — Chester A. Reed.

This is written in simple concise language so that the beginner as well as the expert will be able to use the book effectively. Included are color key for simple field identification, topography of a bird, and complete index for instant reference. Also 300 full-color illustrations of 222 species. New Revised Edition. \$2.95.

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That night there was much guessing as to what "the most beautiful thing in the world" might be. The next day the children began to arrive with their presents. One boy hunted along the roadside until he found an unusually pretty stone. Surely, he said, this must be "the most beautiful thing in the world".

A plump little girl who was very fond of eating brought a lovely chocolate cake with icing four inches thick from her father's bake shop. "I know this is the most beautiful thing in the world!" she exclaimed, very proudly.

The jeweller's son brought a bright jewelled brooch which shone and sparkled like real diamonds in the sun.

Soon all the children were present and had shown their gifts — all, that is, except little Hans who was nowhere to be seen. Where could he be? Finally when the children thought they could wait no longer, the door opened and Hans ran in with something white in his arms. "I am very sorry I'm late," he cried, and then he held out his arms and showed them what he carried. "I was looking for something beautiful on my way to school when I came across some boys who were stoning this bird. I couldn't make them stop so I picked up the bird and ran as fast as I could. Hans looked down at the white pigeon in his arms, and as he did, the bird fluttered its broken wing, cuddled its head in closely to Hans' jacket and died.

As the school master gently took the bird from the boy's arms, a tear fell from Hans' eye and dropped on the bird he had tried to save. As the tear drop sparkled on the pigeon's white breast the school master said, "We have found the most beautiful thing in the world. It is the tear dropped in sympathy for another. Truly Hans, above all others, deserves the little angel."



## To Whom Tribute etc.

from page 22

pated in a camping programme of swimming, boating, campcraft, riding, nature lore and all the other activities related to a simple life in the out-of-doors. "Dinty" has always felt that camping should take a child close to nature and natural things and that philosophy has always been reflected in her own camp activities.

Gertrude Moore was instrumental in organizing the British Camping Association in 1939 and was its first President. For ten years she held executive office in this organization and during that time many advances were made in camping in British Columbia. The most important of these was the drawing up on standards for camping in that province requested by the provincial government and later used as a basis for licensing summer camps in B.C.

Gertrude Moore's enthusiasm has not waned with the years. Her keen desire has been that the camping for the youth of British Columbia should develop more widely. If she had her way every boy and girl in Canada would have an opportunity to spend some part of each year in camp. She hopes that some day camping will be included in the curriculum of the public schools. Certainly, Gertrude has done much to prepare the way for this to happen.



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